

ful many an evening, as she sat by the stone heart of the old homestead. At her feet chimed the crickets, her eyes were blue, and her head her hair. Hulbert talked of the sickness and deaths and merry-makings of the neighborhood, interlarding now and then by comments on the weather. Indeed, Mrs. Hulbert was exceedingly fond of comparing one day with another, and the seasons of the year. "Twenty years ago," she would say, "sometimes, 'we had an airy fall, the apples from the trees, and the late turnips were not worth a cent.' Every day and every week she compared or contrasted with some other day or week, five, ten, or twenty years ago. So, Linney was no longer interested in any of the warm spells that had ever thawed the frosts of January and brought forward the unfriendly fruit, nor in the great freshets that had swept off fences and bridges, and drowned a calf or two perhaps, nor yet in the wicked frosts that blackened the peach blossoms and wilted the young cucumber vines, some time long past.

The winter evenings, as I have said, must have been tedious, but for the bright dream of Linney. It was only a dream; and the boughs were bare of the roses, the next summer, that she kept blooming about her all the winter.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1853.

The following named gentlemen are authorized agents for the cities of Philadelphia, New York, and Boston:

William Alcorn, No. 220 Lombard street, Phila.

William Harned, No. 45 Beekman street, N. York.

G. W. Light, No. 3 Cornhill, Boston.

A NEW DOCUMENT—containing, 1. Declaration of Independence; 2. Constitution of the United States; 3. Fugitive Slave Law; 4. Platforms of the Parties, as adopted in 1852; and 5. Hon. Charles Sumner's Speech on the Constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law—in now in press, and will shortly be issued. It will be a handsome pamphlet of 48 pages, and will be furnished (postage paid) at 10 cents per single copy, \$1 per dozen, or \$8 per hundred.

Orders are respectfully solicited.

The above, not including Mr. Sumner's Speech, will be furnished at the rate of \$3 per hundred.

Address: A. M. GANDEWER,

Box 95, Washington, D. C.

THE NEW CABINET.

Rumors are plenty about the composition of the new Cabinet. McClelland of Michigan and Medary of Ohio are named for the Post Office, Marcy and Plagg for the office of Secretary of the Treasury, Cushing and Hunter for the State Department; Davis of Mississippi, it is thought, will be Secretary of War; Stockton of New Jersey and Dobbin of North Carolina are named for the Navy; Guthrie of Kentucky and Nicholson of Tennessee for the Interior.

RULES OF THE HOUSE—DELAY OF BUSINESS—THE CAUSE.

Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, members of the House employed themselves in a general discussion of the causes of the delay in transacting the business of legislation. It was admitted on all hands, that there was an inexcusable delay; but opinions differed respecting the true cause of it. Some denominated the rules as being complicated and contradictory; some implicated the Speaker; some arraigned the Chairman of the Committees of the House; some denounced the body itself.

It seems to us that the rules are needlessly complicated. In the desire to guard the rights of the minority, the majority has been so hampered, that it is in the power of a mere faction, if the Speaker be in its interest, to obstruct all legislation. It will be observed, in reading the proceedings of the House from day to day, that the common motion is, to suspend the rules, for the purpose of proceeding to some special business; in fact, little business is done, except under a suspension of the rules. How can a code of regulations be serviceable, when conformity to them is the exception, and setting them aside is the rule?

But the rules cannot be suspended, unless by a two-thirds vote; so that, although a large majority may be in favor of some important measure, it may find itself unable to reach it, in consequence of the will of a factious minority.

As to the imputation of inefficiency against the Speakers of the House, they are not entitled to much weight. They are efficient enough, but something more than efficiency is required in the presiding officer of such a body as the United States House of Representatives. He must be independent of faction, independent of local interests, and courageous enough, while protecting the rights of a minority, to secure to the majority its legitimate weight. We do not say that the present Speaker is deficient on these points; but we do say that the Speaker of the last House, Mr. Cobb, was deplorably deficient. During the controversy on the Slavery Question, he was the organ of a faction. He gave such construction to the rules, as put it in the power of forty men, for any length of time, wickedly to thwart the will of the whole House besides. Has the country forgotten how the measure of the admission of California as a State was fought from day to day, and week to week, by this small party, with Mr. Cobb as its exponent and instrument, in defiance of the repeatedly expressed will of an immense majority of the House, representing an immense majority of the American People? By motions made simply to arrest all business, by asking to be excused from voting, for no reason, and then demanding the yeas and nays on the question whether the member should be excused, by alternating the same motions, with eternal calls for the yeas and nays, all legislation was made impossible, and the morale of the House was debauched.

Bad precedents are dangerous. Faction has been learning its strength ever since the agitation of the Slavery Question in Congress, in 1833. It was organized under the auspices of the Slave Power. It has been fostered by the Slave Power for the purpose of putting down the right of petition and the freedom of debate. It has been tolerated by sober-minded representatives, opposed to Anti-Slavery movements, because it directed its efforts specially for their suppression. It developed itself in its full strength during the last Congress, when it invigorated the House and obstructed all legislation by expedients which could be justified by no cause which would not justify a revolution.

Was it to be expected, that with such an example of what might be accomplished by its power, its action would be confined to questions of a minority. If, for example, a bill which it dislikes, lies upon the Speaker's table, having precedence of many other important measures, it will sacrifice them all, rather than allow that to be fairly considered; and it unscrupulously resorts to all sorts of motions, to prevent the consideration of a measure on which it knows the majority has made up its mind. The object is, not to save time for consideration—not to prevent haste—not to secure a full attendance of the members—not to prevent a snap judgment from being taken—but it is simply to defeat a fair expression of the will of a majority, acting after due deliberation, and under the rules of the House.

We repeat, this Element of Evil in Congress owes its present dangerous development and activity, more to the Slave Power—far more—than to any other cause. The records of Congress, from 1833 down to 1852, will show this to any one who chooses to consult them.

OVERTURE OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN RELATION TO CENTRAL AMERICA.

From a communication submitted to the Senate by the President, respecting affairs in Central America, it would seem that the British Government is anxious for an honorable and pacific settlement of difficulties in that quarter. Mr. Everett, in summing up the overtures of the British Government, through Mr. Crampton, says—

"First, That in consideration of the altered state of things under which it grew up, that Government is disposed to relieve itself from the protectorate of the Mosquito Indians, provided that a security can be obtained for them against hostile incursions from the neighboring States."

"Secondly, That the British Government regards the erection of San Juan del Norte into a free and independent city, whose political condition would resemble that of the free cities of Germany, as the best course to be pursued for settling the controversies relative to the sovereignty of that place, and as the most convenient mode of insuring protection to the Mosquito Indians."

"Thirdly, That, though a formal guarantee of the free city is not proposed to be entered into by the two Powers, Great Britain desires the concurrence of the United States in effecting these objects."

Mr. Everett does not recommend assent to these propositions—he thinks that the terms of settlement provided in the convention of 30th April, 1852, would be more advantageous to Nicaragua, and that recent events encourage the expectation that the Nicaraguan Government may accept of them. But he justly remarks—

"However this may be, the communications of the British Minister, made by order of his Government, will not doubt be regarded as a satisfactory indication of a desire on the part of Great Britain, by resigning the protectorate of Mosquito, to remove one of the most serious embarrassments of the case. They seem to this Department also to suggest the expediency of a new effort to induce all parties to enter into the settlement of their conflicting claims and interests. Such an effort might advantageously begin by putting the diplomatic relations of the United States with Central America on a better footing."

He proceeds to recommend the appointment of a full Minister to Central America, to be accredited to each of the Governments included in that name, to reside successively at such of their capitals as he should deem expedient, with full powers to treat with any or all of them, and with instructions to use the influence which his rank would give him to promote the great work of conciliation.

We do hope that the propositions of the British Government may be fairly considered by the Senate, and that the friendly feeling that seems to have dictated it may be reciprocated. England is ambitious, but does not desire any conflict with us. Both nations have nothing to gain, but much to lose, by a rupture of the friendly relations now subsisting between them. But let us have no more treaties with afterthought constructions, and no arrangements which will not exclude European colonization from all of Central America.

HOMESTEAD BILL.

This important measure, brought forward several years ago in the House of Representatives, by Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee, urged by him at every session since with great ability and pertinacity, passed at the last session, after a full debate, by a majority of two-thirds of the House, and sent to the Senate in season for its action, is still without the form of law. The Senate refused to act upon it then, and will not notice it now. We believe the Committee on Public Lands has charge of it. Is the Chairman hostile to the measure?

Early in the session, Messrs. Hale and Chase brought the subject to the notice of the Senate, and pressed for prompt action, but they were overruled. That body is too far removed from the People, to pay much respect to their wants or wishes. Were the members dependent upon their constituents, instead of an intermediate body, for their seats, and was the term of service two instead of six years, they would look more to the interests of the masses.

A writer in the Union says—

"This important measure—perhaps the most important ever before Congress—lies unheeded, the popular will disregarded, like some trifling memorial, on the table of the Senate."

"I say nothing now of its merits—I speak only of the apathy of the Senate as to the bill. If it be indifference only, then that shows a want of appreciation of so great a measure, and of the public voice as expressed through the House of Representatives and the press; but, if the inaction of the Senate arises from a desire to evade the question, such *laissez faire* (let alone) legislation is unjust to the country. A bill of such a character, passed by a two-thirds vote in the House, nine months ago, surely is worthy the attention of the Senate. Let it be passed, and the country expects it. The People will hold the Senate in this second session of the thirty-second Congress responsible."

True, but how are they to hold them responsible? It may be six years before they will have a chance to show their disapprobation, and then they can only do so indirectly through an intermediate legislative body, whose composition may be determined by other questions.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

The persecution and imprisonment of the Madiai family, by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, for exercising the rights of conscience, have aroused the indignation of liberal men all over the world. At this time of day, it is too bad that any tyrant, great or small, should dare to punish a man for reading the Bible, or worshipping God according to the dictates of his own conscience, without interference with the rights of his neighbor. Such oppression justifies intervention of a most decided character.

The United States, which she does, in her organic law, the rights of conscience, and faithfully securing the full enjoyment of these rights to immigrants, sojourners, or citizens, without distinction of sect, are bound to promote the cause of religious freedom throughout the world; and specially to secure for Americans, in other countries, the freedom of conscience guaranteed to citizens of those countries while sojourning or settling within our borders.

Executive influence, wisely directed, will accomplish all that is needed. We are gratified, therefore, that Mr. Underwood has reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, in the Senate, the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That it would be just and wise, on the part of the Government of the United States, in future treaties with foreign nations, to secure, if practicable, to our citizens residing abroad, the right of worshipping God, freely and openly, according to the dictates of their own consciences, by providing that they shall not be disturbed, molested, or annoyed in any manner, by the religious beliefs, or by the non-beliefs, in the proper exercise of their peculiar religion, either within their own private houses, or in churches, chapels, or other places appointed for public worship; and that they shall be at liberty to build and maintain places of worship in convenient sites, and to interfere in no way with, but respecting the religion and customs of the country in which they reside."

"Resolved, further, That it would be just and wise, in our future treaties with foreign nations, to secure to our citizens residing abroad the right to purchase and own burial places, and to bury any of our citizens dying abroad in such places, with those religious ceremonies and observances deemed appropriate by the surviving relatives and friends of the deceased."

The Commercial Advertiser, of New York, a paper which shudders at the word intervention, can see no harm in such a declaration as this. On the contrary, it is warmly in favor of it.

"Such a declaration, as we have before said, would benefit our Government, would be reasonable, now that the disgust of the world has been so plainly expressed in the case of the Madiai, and would deter Tuscany, or Austria, or Rome, from any attempt at such tyranny over an American citizen; and we repeat the expression of an earnest hope, that before the present Congress rises, it will declare, by resolution, its abhorrence of this religious tyranny, and empower the Government, to express such a sentiment to Roman Catholic powers in the strongest terms that international comity will allow."

FRAUDS UPON THE GOVERNMENT.

We blame no man for laboring to guard the People's money against fraud and extravagance. Too much vigilance cannot be maintained over the public treasury—too much pains cannot be taken to secure the faithful fulfillment of contracts with the Government. It is common to regard the Government as a great corporation, which it is no crime to overreach or subject to extortion.

But the words "economy," "retrenchment," "waste," "extravagance," "corruption," "fraud," have a magical effect in political warfare. The men who are the most fluent in the use of them, are not always the purest of patriots. A fraud may offend them, not so much because it is a fraud as because it is successful. Waste or corruption which they would overlook in their own Party, they arraign with a most Pharisaical austerity, when practiced by their political opponents. Nay, in their over-zealous judgment, a mere rumor or an ex-parte statement will serve as ground for a long indictment of high crimes and misdemeanors against an Administration which they would render odious.

Lately, we observed in several newspapers, charges of gross fraud in the use of the appropriation made at the last session for the erection of additional wings to the Capitol. They were repeated in every variety of form, and the only evidence offered to sustain them was certain ex-parte statements made in Congress during the heat of debate. It turns out that there has been a great waste of righteous indignation. Mr. Stanton, of Kentucky, a Democratic member of the House, and Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings, in a note to the Union, puts a quietus upon the charges, as follows:

"The deficiency bill brought these frauds before the Senate. That bill appropriates the sum of \$400,000 to meet deficiencies in the fund provided for the enlargement, although it appears that the amount of money required to carry on the work until the end of the present fiscal year, June 30, 1853—a period of more than a year and a half. The amount asked for was \$1,000,000, as will be seen by the report. The subject was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, of which I was and am the Chairman."

"In consequence of the hostility which then existed against the work, and the efforts made in some quarters to defeat it, I thought an appropriation of a half million could be carried easier than the amount estimated for, and accordingly, by the assent of the committee, I offered a resolution in the House, making appropriation of that sum only. This carried, and instead of a million, which was necessary, there was appropriated only one-half the sum needed to keep the work in progress until the expiration of the present fiscal year. The object for which the four hundred thousand dollars was now asked is to keep the work in operation until the last of next June. The sum heretofore appropriated is fully exhausted in the purchase of materials and the employment of labor. No debts of any importance are due, either to the Government or other objects. You will see, therefore, that the deficiency to which you refer is not a deficiency of four hundred thousand in an expenditure of five hundred thousand dollars—an increase of four-fifths over estimates—or over estimates, as you allege; and that the influence you draw therefrom, to the prejudice of the managing the management of the fund, is unjust."

In relation to another charge, that sixty-five thousand dollars had been lost to the Government by frauds connected with the furnishing of marble, he says—

"My official position, as Chairman of the Committee of the House having jurisdiction of the subject, has induced me to inquire into this alleged enormity; and having examined the returns of marble delivered, and the payments made to the present day, I am prepared to state that the whole cost paid for marble delivered up to this moment, is only \$612,241.91. Your ingenuity will perhaps enable you to show how, under this state of fact, the marble contractors have been enabled fraudulently to pocket \$65,000 over and above the value of the article."

The Government has its rights, and so has the citizen. The Public Treasury should be guarded against profligate expenditures; but private character should be protected against wanton or inconsiderate outrage. He who robs the Government of sixty-five thousand dollars, deserves the Penitentiary; but he is guiltless who, on insufficient grounds, and without careful investigation, publicly arraigns as a swindler his fellow citizen? We suspect that man's devotion to the public interests, who ruthlessly tramples upon private character.

DIVISION OF TEXAS.

The project of dividing Texas has been a common topic of discussion in the newspapers of that State for the last two years. It is believed by many that the interests of Eastern and Western Texas cannot be provided for effectually by one Government, and it is alleged that the representative power of the latter has been used to the detriment of the former. The proposed measure is not agreed in relation to the proposed measure. Some advocate it, with a view to the advancement of certain local interests, and to the increase of the political power of Slavery in the Senate of the United States; and some oppose it, as they are ambitious that Texas should become the empire State of the South, and as they apprehend that a division of Texas now might lead to the organization ultimately of a free State in the West.

The Columbia South Carolinian says that the advocates of division are mostly in Eastern Texas, where several papers are enlisted for the measure. The Houston Telegraph admits that the scheme is rapidly gaining adherents. It opposes it, urging "that if there should be a division of the State, as proposed, into Eastern and Western Texas, there would be great danger of the western section becoming a free State; which the Telegraph thinks would much depreciate the value of slave property in Eastern Texas. It is stated that the success attending the election of sugar in Texas has been such that the country between the Trinity and the Guadalupe rivers is rapidly filling up with planters; and, if the State remains united for some years longer, it will be pretty well peopled with a slaveholding population."

The Ledger, of San Antonio, uses the same argument in opposition to the measure: "It has been urged that among the population of seven thousand Mexicans within our borders, and the immense tide of foreign emigrant laborers now pouring into Western Texas, there is among the strong Free Soil tendency. Now, divide the State, and there is no strong danger that the west would soon enact a Free Soil contest similar to that which in the former North slave-border States has resulted in the emancipation of the servile population? Agitate this question of a division of the State, ye eastern gentlemen, and you may have a powerful abolition State by your side, that will eat away your most sacred and opulent interests."

We doubt whether there be any real ground for such an objection. Texas will be divided, and we expect to see an application submitted to the next Congress for the admission of another slave State. It may be difficult to induce German immigrants to become slaveholders, but they cannot be relied upon for active opposition to Slavery.

BRITISH COLONIAL AND LAKE TRADE—INTERESTING REPORT. By a resolution adopted in the Senate July 12, 1851, the Secretary of the Treasury was requested to communicate to the Senate, as early as possible, complete statements of the trade and commerce of the British North American colonies with the United States and other parts of the world, on land and sea, in the years 1850 and 1851, with such information as he could obtain of the trade of the great lakes. In pursuance of the resolution, Mr. Corwin selected Mr. L. D. Andrews, our consul at St. Johns, to collect and arrange the information sought for, and the results of this gentleman's investigations have been embodied in a large report, lately submitted to the Senate, the first of which we have had the pleasure of looking into.

It is the most ample and satisfactory report on the subjects referred to, which we have ever seen. The statistical tables are invaluable; the arrangement is comprehensive and lucid; and the accompanying remarks and explanations emanate evidently from sound and enlarged views of the great interests and true policy of the country.

The British North American provinces, mentioned in the report, are the following:

Canada East - 128,659,680
Canada West - 31,742,539
Nova Brunswick - 22,000,000
Nova Scotia (proper) - 9,534,196
Cape Breton - 2,000,000
Newfoundland - 23,040,000
Prince Edward's Island - 1,360,000
Total - 218,339,415

In 1820, the population of all these provinces was said to be 1,375,000. The census returns, at the close of the year 1851, presented the following results:

Canada East and West - 1,842,265
Nova Brunswick - 193,000
Nova Scotia and Cape Breton - 277,005
Newfoundland - 101,600
Prince Edward's Island - 62,678
Total - 2,476,548

Of the Canadians, some fourteen hundred and fifty thousand are natives, of whom eight hundred thousand are of French, six hundred and fifty thousand not of French origin. Of the foreign population in the Canadian, 1,127,000 are from Ireland, 94,000 from England, 90,000 from Scotland, 56,000 from the United States, and the rest from other countries.

It is stated that the population in all the colonies doubles itself in sixteen or eighteen years. In 1806, the value of all the exports from the colonies was but \$7,287,940. In the year 1831 it had more than doubled. In 1851 it reached \$35,720,000. Their tonnage exported by sea increased from 124,247 in 1806, to 1,583,104 in 1851.

The importance of the trade between this country and the colonies is not generally understood. The following tables from the Report show the amounts of colonial exports and imports in 1851:

Imports from Great Britain, the United States, and other countries, in 1851.

	Great Britain	United States	Other Countries
Canada -	12,376,828	8,638,236	1,447,378
Nova Scotia -	12,376,828	8,638,236	1,447,378
Nova Brunswick -	2,292,390	1,644,165	954,933
Newfoundland -	1,690,750	998,734	1,855,540
Prince Ed's Island -	279,898	41,963	306,974
Total -	18,378,706	12,978,270	6,191,405

Aggregate of Colonial exports to Great Britain, United States, and other countries, in 1851.

	Great Britain	United States	Other Countries
Canada -	\$6,731,204	\$4,939,250	\$1,034,438
Nova Scotia -	142,245	758,423	2,613,190
Nova Brunswick -	2,909,790	415,140	258,190
Newfoundland -	2,162,735	99,970	2,538,680
Prince Ed's Island -	84,986	55,385	184,658
Total -	11,668,925	6,218,960	6,877,831

We hope wise counsels may prevail with the Governments of both countries, leading them to remove all restrictions on the trade between the colonies and the United States. What if we do live under different Governments, this fact does not change our geographical relations, nor ought it to change the laws of trade. Free trade between the United States and Canada would be just as beneficial as free trade now is between New England and the Mississippi valley, or between the States north and south of the Ohio river.

UNPUBLISHED CORRESPONDENCE. The Society of Tammany, as may be recollected by some of our readers, held a grand celebration last December, to which were invited the distinguished Democrats of the country. Among others who were so honored, was our friend, J. W. Howe, of the House of Representatives, Washington, who, appreciating the compliment, returned an answer which we do not think appeared among the letters from the unfortunate absentees. It has lately fallen into our hands, and as it is quite a unique piece of composition, our readers may be refreshed by its perusal. One or two words towards the close are rather too sharp for so good-natured an epistle, but the writer is evidently imbued with the spirit of fraternity.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, December 27, 1852. Col. DANIEL E. DELAYAN, Grand Sachem of the Tammany Society: Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Society's favor of the 16th inst., and in answer to inform you that I have the honor to join in celebrating the thirty-eight anniversary of the BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS, at Tammany Hall, on Monday evening, the 10th proximo. I can't come. I belong to another order of "friendly Indians," called the "FREE DEMOCRACY," which means, in my language, freedom for "all the world, and the rest of mankind." We speak in a tongue entirely unknown to your NATION. We are National in politics. In that we are peculiar.

We are the only tribe now living in the United States, who speak but one tongue upon the subject of Slavery; and that we were taught in the HIGHER LAW—which see.

There was, until recently, a large tribe of Indians (mostly half-breeds) wandering over the whole country, some of whom understood a little tolerably well, our language; but, being *thin-skinned*, falsified their former professions; and after they had surrendered their principles, (and themselves too) your tribe in the most wanton manner made them "run the gauntlet," and on the 2d day of November last, TOMAHAWKED their old Sachem in a savage manner. That tribe is fast dying out, of "agitation"—is nearly dead, "so it is."

Below I give you the names of some of our chief men, or, as we call them, HEAD MEN: Sachem, George W. Julian; Sachem, Charles F. Adams, Jr.; John P. Hale, Grand Sachem. Fraternally yours, JOSEPH W. HOWE.

Nota Bene. It is requested that the answer (if any is given) be directed to Hon. John P. Hale, Washington, D. C.

P. S. We would like to cultivate peace, FRIENDSHIP, and LOVE, with your *unwigan*, and to teach your young men our language. J. W. H.

D. E. D. G. S.

LITERARY NOTICES.

RESTORATION OF THE MONARCHY IN FRANCE. VOL. III. By Alphonse de Lamartine. New York: Harper & Brothers.

We have already called attention to this work, and noticed its leading features. The third volume embraces the period from the seizure of Napoleon as a prisoner of war, and his exile to St. Helena, to the day of his death. It is full of Lamartine's poetry and philosophy.

SHADES OF CHARACTER; OR, THE INFANT PILGRIM. By Anne Woodroffe. 2 vols. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. For sale by Gray & Ballantyne, 7th street, Washington, D. C.

This is a religious novel—not religious in spirit or sentiment alone, but in technology. It is hard to make such a work agreeable, but the author has ventured upon the task. She writes in a good style, and inculcates excellent sentiments.

THE HIGHER LAW, in its relations to Civil Government; with particular reference to Slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law. By William Hosmer. Auburn: Derby & Miller.

The author puts forth this book under the conviction that it is the bounden duty of all Christian ministers to take an active, prominent part, on the side of the slave, in the discussion of the question of Slavery; not only because it is a work of mercy to do battle for him who is wrongfully bound and unable to do battle for himself, but because this said question of Slavery involves principles in which is centered the whole vitality of the Christian faith. He contends upon true premises, that it is their duty to preach the Higher Law, as transcending all other laws; inasmuch as in its denial the prime basis of the whole doctrine of Christianity is denied. He contends, and again upon true premises, that this duty is *incidental* to the statesman, but not to the minister, for he is charged with the defence of the Gospel."

The book is made up of a series of articles, each of which is an analysis of the Higher Law in its relation to some one of the prominent questions of the day. They are all remarkable for quiet force, logical argument, and a clear appreciation of the whole scope of the subject. The book is neatly printed, and opens with a portrait of Mr. Seward.

THE DAUGHTERS OF ZION. By Rev. S. D. Burchard, D. D. New York: John S. Taylor. For sale by Gray & Ballantyne, Washington, D. C.

The author has been induced to prepare and put forth this volume, by the feeling that in the multitudinous daily book-births of this wondrously prolific age, the Bible, considered merely as a literary production, was being deposited for its legitimate position. His feeling will be at least respected by all who are familiar with the exquisite beauty of those biographical episodes which abound in Biblical History. He has taken pains to arrange them in chronological order, beginning with Sarah and ending with Mary Magdalene. A tasteful simplicity and a reverent earnestness characterize the style of these narratives, and they are not, as too often happens in such cases, overlaid with sectarian comments and interpolations. Steel engraved representations of a majority of the "Daughters" accompany their histories.

THE PORTFOLIO OF HENRY ALFORD, Viceroy of Weymouth, Leicestershire. Boston: Ticknor, Reed & Fields. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Alfrod is one of those who believe that it is the office of Poetry to incorporate itself with the Present—to exercise its refining influence upon the now-existing events of the world. He desires that, instead of terrestrializing angels, (a *la* Festus Bailey), domesticating the moon and stars, and paraphrasing ancient myths and traditions, it should kick off its high-heeled boots, and walk earnestly and bravely along with the world—constituting itself the brakeman, as it were, on the engine of Progress, and endeavor to modify this sixty-miles-an-hour machine, which it has acquired somehow or other, towards ultra-materialism. The distinguishing elements of his poetry seem to be perfect purity of sentiment, directness and strength of thought, and simplicity of language, combined with a deep, earnest, ever-present religious faith. We have been most attracted to those poems which describe actual experiences, and therefore refer least aid from the imagination—in the absence of which faculty, or at least the higher form of it, consists his most notable deficiency as a poet; and herein, we fancy, lies the secret, perhaps unknown to himself, of his theory in regard to the functions of Poetry.

Of the typography, &c., of the book, it is superfluous to speak, inasmuch as it comes from Messrs. Ticknor & Co.

THE SUCCESSFUL MERCHANT. By William Arthur, A. M. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale by R. Farham, Washington, D. C.

This purports to be the biography of a real character, followed through the thousand and one intricacies of an active and successful commercial life. Its object is to counteract the deplorable tendencies of commerce as conducted now-a-days. It is meant to show that a man can be a merchant, and a "successful merchant," without immolating the holiest and Godliest attributes of his nature—without making of himself a mere thermometer, indicating the money temperature of Wall street. It is an earnest, good book.

AUTOGRAPHS FOR FREEDOM. Boston: J. P. Jewett & Co. Cleveland, Ohio: Jewett, Proctor, & Worthington.

This is a neat collection of sketches, short essays, and poems, from the pens of some of the most prominent laborers in the general cause of Freedom, with fac-similes of their respective autographs attached. Among them, we note the Earl of Carlisle, the Bishop of Oxford, Horace Mann, Horace Greeley, Whittier, Mrs. Stowe, Mrs. Kirkland, &c. The purpose of this publication is to aid in spreading the doctrine of Anti-Slavery, not only by its immediate influence, but by the proceeds of its sale. The project is ingenious and commendable, and originated with the Rochester Ladies' Anti-Slavery Society. Success to it!

LADY-BIRD. A Tale. By Lady Georgiana Fullerton. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale by R. Farham, Washington, D. C.

One of that class of novels which may be characterized as passively good—possessing neither prominent merits nor prominent dem

to remark that notwithstanding the different branches of "Quakers" are widely scattered in some important cities, and in a few instances that of opposition to Slavery, and a few of their members fall far behind the line drawn by their respective Societies, their influence, as a body, is generally seen in the favorable state of the Anti-Slavery cause around them. Guilford county, North Carolina, may be taken as a fair sample. Slaveryholding has been a disavowable offense for half a century, and no other religious denomination, if we except a few who have recently seceded from Anti-Slavery ground, numbers so many Free-Souls in proportion to the number of its members.

In conclusion, I beg leave to state a few facts which, so far as they go, may be relied on. There are five branches of "Friends" in America, viz: Orthodox, Hicksite, Wilburite, Anti-Slavery, and Congregational Friends. The first two are by far the most numerous—the last three having but one "yearly meeting" each. Of "Orthodox" Friends there are seven churches or "yearly meetings" in America, viz: New England, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana. The last-named is the largest in the world, numbering 6,000 families, and some 20,000 or 25,000 members, nearly half of whom are in the neighboring States. R. T. R.

Near Richmond, Va., 1853.

ELECTION OF POSTMASTERS BY THE PEOPLE.

We notice in our exchanges, that in several places a beginning has been made in the policy of electing Postmasters by the People. The popular choice is of course but a nomination; but the manner in which it is made shows how easily the present system might be changed. We copy, in full, the proceedings of a meeting at Oswego, New York:

POSTMASTER AT OSWEGO.—DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

Anticipating a change of Postmasters at the commencement of the incoming Administration, and after consultation with many Democrats, the Democratic Committee of the first district of the town of Oswego were induced to issue the following call:

"Democratic Meeting.—A meeting of the Democratic electors of the town of Oswego, and the adjacent towns, who do business at the Oswego post office, will be held at the Tioga House, in the village of Oswego, on Tuesday, the 25th instant, for the purpose of selecting a suitable person for Postmaster in this village. The polls will be opened at 3 o'clock, P. M., and closed at 4 1/2 o'clock, P. M., and reopened at 7 P. M., and closed at 8 P. M."

"Dated, Oswego, Jan. 18, 1853."

G. O. CHASE, Secy.
H. A. BEBEE, Secy.
H. A. BEBEE, Secy.
H. A. BEBEE, Secy.

In pursuance of the above call, a large meeting of the Democracy assembled at the time and place therein mentioned, when, on motion of G. O. Chase, Esq., the Hon. John J. Taylor, member of Congress elected in this district, was called to the chair, and Mr. Milton S. Leonard and Franklin Slosson appointed Secretaries.

Hon. G. O. Chase offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: Resolved, That any legal voter, residing in this town or county, receiving and sending his communications through the Oswego post office, and who voted the Democratic electoral ticket in November last, together with such (if any) as did not attend the election last fall, but are known to have been favorable to the success of the Democratic nominees for President and Vice President, and none else, shall be entitled to vote at this meeting. And the inspectors of this election are hereby declared to be the judges of the qualifications of voters.

On motion of F. J. Fay, Esq., Resolved, That the officers of this meeting act as a board of inspectors, to receive and canvass the votes.

The meeting then, at 3 o'clock, P. M., proceeded to ballot for their choice of candidates for the office of Postmaster at Oswego, (the poll being kept open as specified in the call,) with the following result:

For Hiram A. Beebe - 21 votes.
For Charles F. Fay - 21
For Daniel L. Jenks - 23
The result was announced by the Chairman, and received with the most deafening applause.

Mr. Beebe, being called for, came forward and made a few appropriate remarks, thanking his friends for their participation in the cause, and saying in substance that he valued more their present expression of kindness and esteem, without the post office, than he would the post office without the expression of his fellow-citizens.

On motion of S. C. Clisbe, Esq., Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the officers thereof, and published in the Oswego Gazette, Albany Argus, Albany Atlas, and the Washington Union.

JOHN J. TAYLOR, Chairman.

MILTON S. LEONARD, Secretaries.
FRANKLIN SLOSSON, Secretaries.

The proceedings of this meeting we like, so far as they show that Postmasters may just as easily be chosen by the People as appointed by a central hand in Washington. Beyond this, we cannot approve of them. If Postmasters are to be chosen by the People, let the People, not a Party, decide the question. Suppose the Democratic electors of Oswego, residing at the post office, constituted but a fourth of the whole number of electors, why should their votes be decisive against four times the number? What is the great evil to be remedied by the removal from the Executive at Washington the appointment of Postmasters? The power of patronage exercised for personal or party ends, at the expense of the general welfare. But how is this to be remedied, if the Deputy Postmasters are to be taken from the ranks of the Administration? No matter whether they be designated by the Democratic electors of a district, or appointed without such designation, by the Executive, they will be equally amenable to Executive influences.

If Whigs, Democrats, and Independent Democrats are really sincere in insisting upon the right of the People to select their own Postmasters, let them agree, say at Oswego, to fix a certain day when all the electors receiving or sending letters or papers at its post office, shall be invited to designate at the polls their choice for Postmaster—and let the majority decide the question, here, as in other cases. This would be true Democracy—the Democracy of principle, not of party. Such a policy once agreed upon generally by the People, it would be easy to sanction it by law; and then the corps of Postmasters, chosen by the People at their several post offices, would to a great extent be freed from a central Executive influence.

FROM EUROPE.

The steamer Alps has arrived at New York, with dates from Liverpool to the 21 instant. Cotton had slightly advanced, and flour and other breadstuffs further declined.

Viscount Melbourne, ex-Premier of Great Britain, is dead.

The marriage of the French Emperor took place on the 29th, at the Tuileries. The Paris papers state that the ceremony was conducted with noble simplicity, in the presence of about eight hundred persons.

The Emperor refused to allow the Senate to settle any donation upon her. This, coupled with her previous refusal to receive a set of jewelry from the municipal council, had produced a very favorable impression of her.

Napoleon's speech, announcing his intended marriage, has made a profound sensation in Vienna. The answer given by the French Ambassador, relative to the Emperor's allusion to Maria Louisa, is not deemed satisfactory. A difficulty still exists between the two Governments concerning the time the Roman States are to be occupied by French troops. The *Lloyd's* of Vienna announce a definite arrangement of the differences between Austria and the United States.

The Turks have commenced active operations against Montenegro. They have destroyed three villages by fire, and Omar Pasha is threatening to send troops, by passing on towards the capital. A detachment of Count Jellachich to the frontiers with eighteen thousand troops.

NUMBERS WANTED.—We find that we are unexpectedly run short of Nos. 314 and 315. If any of our friends who do not file the *Era*, have copies of these numbers on hand, they will confer a special favor, by remailing them to this office.

We regret much to have to state that we are no longer able to supply subscribers with numbers of the *Era* from the commencement of the volume, or Mrs. Southworth's story. We supposed that a sufficient number of copies had been printed to fully supply the demand, but subscribers have poured in so fast that we find the edition entirely exhausted. We have advertised for some numbers, and should they come in, we will endeavor to supply old subscribers with an unbroken series.

JUDICIAL DECISION ON A QUESTION OF PERSONAL FREEDOM.

In the spring of 1838, Clarissa, a slave in Kentucky, was permitted by her mistress, Mrs. Triggs, to accompany Mrs. Alexander to Philadelphia, and to continue with her there for more than six months, although she was apprized that by a statute of Pennsylvania, passed in 1780, any slave brought into the State would be entitled to freedom, after a residence there of six months.

Clarissa returned to Kentucky with Mrs. Alexander. Mrs. Triggs, having occasion to borrow money from Mrs. Thompson, (afterwards Mrs. Ferry,) her adopted daughter, executed to her an absolute bill of sale for Clarissa. Clarissa lately instituted a suit before the Circuit Court for her freedom, on the ground of having resided, by the will of her mistress, more than six months in Pennsylvania. The decision was given in her favor; an appeal was taken, and on the 21st of January the Court of Appeals, through Judge Crenshaw, delivered an elaborate opinion, (published in the *Frankfort Commonwealth* of the 24th,) affirming the decree of the lower Court, and liberating Clarissa.

The material part of the opinion is as follows:

Notwithstanding the many suits which have been brought to this Court, prosecuted by persons of color to obtain their freedom, the precise question involved in this controversy has not been decided. It has been repeatedly held by this Court, that a slave sent or permitted to go to a State where slavery is not tolerated, for a temporary purpose only, does not thereby acquire a right to freedom in Kentucky; but that, whatever might be the condition in the free State to which he had been sent, or carried, not for residence, but for a merely temporary purpose, his condition as a slave, upon his return to Kentucky, would not be changed. Rankin vs. Lydia, 2d Mar. 476—Baird vs. Thompson, 2d Mar. 516.

But in the case of *Clarissa*, 3d Mar. 104, Graham vs. Strader, 5th Mar. 179—Tom Davis vs. Tingle, 8th B. M. 546—7—Collins, &c., vs. America, 9th B. M. 565—Maria vs. Kirby, 12 B. M. 542. In these cases, the effect of the laws of other States where slavery is not recognized at all, not even for a moment, has been considered, and the consequence of a temporary or transient sojourn merely in such States, by the consent or approbation of the owner, was declared to be, not that the slave thereby became entitled to freedom in this State, but that, upon his return here, his condition should be as it was before his temporary sojourn.

But the question whether a slave taken to a State where, although the inhabitants, whether black or white, are free, a privilege is extended to sojourners who come from slave States, to hold their servants as slaves, until allowed to do so, in a law upon the contrary, or, in other words, if a State, into which a slave is voluntarily sent or carried by the owner, though for a temporary purpose only, has declared by statute that a slave remaining there a certain length of time shall be free, this Court has decided that such a law upon the contrary of the operation of such a law upon the contrary of a person of color, who may, in our courts, claim to be free by virtue of such a statute. This question has been expressly left open. This Court, in the case of *Ex parte* vs. Kirby, *supra*, say: "If any State were to enact that any slave brought within its limits by the authority of the owner, and who remained in the territory of the owner, should not remain there more than six months, or three, or even one should be free, there might be some reason for saying that such a law should operate permanently, even upon the rights of strangers, because they would have an opportunity of knowing its provisions, and the consequences thereof." And in the case of *Collins*, *supra*, this Court used this language: "These remarks, and the reasoning of this opinion, are made without reference to a case in which the foreign law may directly prohibit the introduction of a slave, or the retaining of him within the territory of the State, and declare the consequences of either of these, and we decide no question as to the effect of such a law."

"In this case, the owner of Clarissa was apprized of what the law of Pennsylvania was, and she was brought there, and determined to risk the consequences thereof. And the slave might be brought there, and her condition be unchanged for the period of six months; but that, if she remained there longer than that period of time, she should be deemed a free woman." Mrs. Triggs was informed that such was the law of Pennsylvania, and she resolved to hazard the consequences. And it is that in such a state of case, the condition of Clarissa in that State, after remaining in that State longer than six months, should follow her to Kentucky, and be her condition here. Under the circumstances, she was free.

"Wherefore the decree is affirmed."

"Read for appellant, Harlan and Callender for appellee."

The Courts of Kentucky have held that a slave permitted by his master to go for some temporary purpose into a State not tolerating Slavery, and returning to his master, is not entitled to his freedom. Until the decision of Judge Crenshaw, they expressly reserved the question, whether a slave going with the consent of his master into a State whose laws declare him to be free after a certain length of time, and returning after that period, is entitled to his freedom. This question, thus revived, is now decided by the highest court of the State of Kentucky, in the affirmative. Clarissa is declared to be free, because she remained, by the consent of her mistress, in Pennsylvania longer than the laws of that State allowed. Now, it is clear, that if there be any principle in this decision, it is this: that a State has a right by statute to say how long a slave, with the consent of his master, shall be permitted to continue as a slave within its limits—that beyond the prescribed time, if he remain with the consent of his master, he shall be free—and that the status thus conferred ought to be recognised by the State from which he went, and to which he may return. But if this be the principle, it is evident that the right to enact such a statute does not depend upon a greater or less length of time. If a State has a right to declare a slave, permitted to come within its limits, free, after remaining therein, with the consent of his master, six months, it may limit the time to three months, one month, one week, one day, one hour. The thing which the Courts of Kentucky seem to require is, not a mere general constitutional prohibition of Slavery, but a positive statute, precisely defining how long or how short a time a slave shall be permitted to remain, with the consent of his master, without being entitled to freedom.

FROM EUROPE.

The Legislature met on the 3d January.

The old project of calling a Constitutional Convention is once more on the tapis. The executive has been given by the Executive in his message, is to abolish a clause inserted by the Constitution; but the real end is the abrogation of the Anti-Slavery clause, and

the division of the State. The first, if it aims at the accomplishment of any definite object, contemplates the introduction of slavery here, a scheme which all men whose interests are not clouded by prejudice know to be the wildest and most chimerical that was ever entertained by intelligent men. As for the division of the State, after more than a year's investigation, we can discover no plausible reason for it. The advocates of the measure have never yet shown what was to be gained by it, in a political or commercial point of view. But the business of the session will turn upon the Constitutional Convention, which will most probably be called. The intended changes, however, will not be effected when it is called.

Alta California.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

THIRTY-SECOND CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

On motion of Mr. Hunter, the Deficiency bill was taken up. All the amendments reported by the Committee on Finance were adopted. Amongst them, \$6,700 for Lafayette Square; \$12,000 for the square south of the President's House; \$100,000 additional for a custom-house at San Francisco; additional sections authorizing the leasing of suitable buildings, &c., in San Francisco, for assay offices, for three years, till the mint is completed; assayers and others to be appointed; \$25,000 for the session of the Senate after the 4th March next.

Mr. Gwin moved an amendment, appropriating \$300,000 to be paid to California out of the fund collected in that State, as duties on imports, previous to her admission, by the military authorities.

This was supported by Messrs. Gwin, Rusk, and Pearce; and opposed by Messrs. Butler, Borland, Brodhead, Hodgson, and Hunter.

Without taking the question on the amendment, the bill was postponed.

Mr. Underwood presented the credentials of the Hon. J. B. Thompson, Senator elect from Kentucky, for six years from the 4th of March next.

The Senate then proceeded to consider the joint resolution of Mr. Cass, affirming the Monroe doctrine, and applying it to the possession of Cuba.

Mr. Douglas addressed the Senate. He examined the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, the Oregon treaty, the Mexican Treaty of peace, and the history of European colonization and proceedings on this continent; showing that the Monroe doctrine, notwithstanding its repeated affirmation, had been systematically treated with contempt by European Powers.

He opposed any declaration on the subject, but that the nation free to act as circumstances should require, and that the United States had no intention to rob Spain in the particular case of Cuba, because it would imply that the United States were open to a suspicion of having such intentions. He considered it unnecessary to allow a European nation to take Cuba, for they well knew it. No nation in Europe would dare take it. Any attempt by England would be to banish her from North America.

He looked upon the resolution as looking over the past violation of the Monroe doctrine, and threatening future. He was for dealing with the past, and not proceeding to the violation of that doctrine and the Clayton treaty by the colonization of the islands in the Bay of Honduras, and practically asserting and maintaining that doctrine, by forcing, at all hazards, Great Britain to abandon that colony. He was for a cordial and friendly free and independent, would purchase Cuba, Spain would sell; but would take her forcibly, if she was to be transferred by Spain to any European nation.

Mr. Cass followed, contending that his resolution applied to past as well as future violations of the treaty.

Mr. Douglas replied.

The Senate then adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

The Chair laid before the Senate a report of the Secretary of the Interior, on the subject of the Mexican boundary.

Mr. Badger said the Judiciary Committee had directed him to report a bill providing that in the trial of cases before the courts of the District of Columbia, should one not be completed before the commencement of a new term of the court, the said trial shall continue and proceed to final judgment, in the same manner as if the term in which it commenced had not expired.

The bill was then passed.

Messrs. Chase and Hamlin, presented memorials in favor of a pension to Americans, while abroad, religious freedom.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the Deficiency bill.

The question pending was on the amendment of Mr. Gwin, appropriating \$300,000 to be paid to California out of the fund collected in that State, as duties on imports, previous to her admission, by the military authorities.

After further debate, the amendment was agreed to—yeas 21, nays 20.

Mr. Chase moved an amendment, appropriating \$30,000 to enable the President to purchase Hiram Powers's statue of America.

After several points of order, the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Borland moved to add to the appropriation for the extension of the Capitol a proviso, that hereafter all moneys expended on this work shall be disbursed by the Commissioner of Public Buildings.

The amendment was agreed to.

Also, an item for \$20,000 for the Library of Congress.

Mr. Borland moved to amend the bill, by striking out the appropriation of \$400,000 for carrying the work on the Capitol; which was rejected—yeas 18, nays 18.

Mr. Walker moved to strike out the provision to make the salary of the Superintendent of the Census (Mr. Kennedy) \$3,000 per annum.

The bill was postponed till to-morrow.

The Pacific Railroad bill was fixed for to-morrow.

The resolutions on the subject of the Tehuantepec grant were taken up.

Mr. Hale addressed the Senate in opposition to the resolutions, and Mr. Brooke commenced a reply.

The Senate then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

The Deficiency bill was under consideration. The question pending was on the amendment to strike out the provision increasing the salary of Mr. Kennedy, the clerk in charge of the census, to \$3,000.

Mr. Downs addressed the Senate in favor of the increased salary.

Mr. Walker denounced the pertinacity with which this census clerk had endeavored to defeat the oft-repeated decision of the Senate, that his salary should not be increased to three thousand dollars.

Mr. Rusk opposed the increase of salary.

Mr. Davis admitted the matter was a small one, but it was the manner in which the census clerk had so pertinaciously importuned for an allowance to which he objected.

Mr. Downs replied.

Mr. Houston examined with minuteness the items of Kennedy's account of his expenses in the trip to Europe.

The question was taken, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Borland moved an amendment, prohibiting the expenditure of any appropriation in the bill for the extension of the Capitol till the first of April.

A debate ensued, in which the honesty and faithfulness of the manner in which the expenditures on this work had been conducted, was resented; after which, the amendment was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote changing the disbursement of the money from the architect to the Commissioner of Public Buildings, was debated and rejected. The bill was then passed.

The Tehuantepec resolutions were taken up.

Mr. Brooke resumed the remarks commenced by him yesterday, and proceeded to sustain them.

The Senate then adjourned.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

Mr. Underwood, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom were referred various memorials on the subject of securing to American citizens while abroad freedom of conscience, made a report, concluding with a recommendation of Executive action in favor of religious freedom. [See editorial here.]

Mr. Underwood introduced a bill for the relief of Mrs. Kirby, of Kentucky. He said her husband was a revolutionary soldier, and died last December, at over ninety years of age. During life he received a pension of \$12 per annum; he asked now the consent of the Senate to give the old lady sixty-five dollars a year for the balance of her life. They were married during the Revolution, and had thirteen children, one hundred and thirty-five grandchildren, over two hundred great-grandchildren, and twenty-seven great-great-grandchildren; thus far in her lifetime she had seen four hundred and fifty-eight descendants.

Mr. Borland said sixty-five dollars a year was not enough, and moved it be made one hundred. The amendment was agreed to, and the bill unanimously passed.

Mr. Douglas reported back House bills to establish Governments for the Territories of Nebraska and Washington.

Mr. Sumner submitted a resolution calling for a statement of the amount of postage collected in the United States on the account of the British Provinces, since the postal treaty was agreed to.

The Tehuantepec resolutions were postponed till Wednesday next.

The Pacific Railroad bill was taken up.

Mr. Bell resumed and concluded the remarks commenced by him in support of the bill on the 4th instant.

Mr. Smith followed in defence and urgent advocacy of the bill.

Mr. Chase supported Mr. Brodhead's proposed substitute, and then the subject was postponed.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and at a late hour adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

Mr. Davis presented the credentials of his successor, the Hon. Edward Everett, Senator elect from Massachusetts for six years from the fourth of March next.

On motion of Mr. Gwin, the Senate postponed all prior orders, and proceeded to consider the bill providing for a railroad to the Pacific. The question pending was on the amendment of Mr. Brodhead, to strike out all of the bill, and insert a provision appropriating \$150,000 for a survey and exploration to ascertain the practicability of constructing a road of this kind.

Messrs. Dodge, of Iowa, and Geyer, supported the bill, and Mr. Cooper opposed it.

The question was then taken on the substitute, and it was rejected—yeas 22, nays 34—as follows:

YEA—Messrs. Adams, Bayard, Bright, Brodhead, Butler, Charlton, Chase, Cooper, Dawson, De Saussure, Dodge, Edwards, Miller, Pease, Pettit, Phelps, Toucey, Walker—22.

NAY—Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Borland, Bradbury, Brooke, Cass, Clark, Davis, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Jones, Felch, Fisk, Gwin, Hamlin, Hamilton, Johnson, Jones of Iowa, Jones of Texas, Mason, Morris, Pease, Rusk, Sebastian, Seward, Shields, Smith, Soule, Spruance, Sumner, Underwood, Wade, Welles—34.

Mr. Mason opposed the bill, in earnest terms, as unconstitutional.

Mr. Pratt replied at considerable length.

Mr. Mason moved to commit the bill to the Committee on Roads and Canals, which motion was lost—yeas 18, nays 33.

Mr. Pratt moved to amend the bill by providing that the cost of the road shall not exceed the amount appropriated by this bill, and that the corporation shall not have banking powers and privileges.

Mr. Welles moved to strike out the 13th section of the bill, which incorporates the contractors into a company.

Messrs. Cass, Welles, and Bayard, supported it; Messrs. Pratt and Underwood opposed it.

Mr. Toucey commenced a speech, but became too unwell to proceed, and after repeated motions the Senate adjourned.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

On motion of Mr. Pratt, the bill granting the right of way to the Georgetown and Catoctin railroad, through the District of Columbia, was taken up and passed.

The Pacific Railroad bill was taken up, the question pending being Mr. Welles's motion to strike out the 13th section, by confining the corporation to the Territories, and denying them corporate powers within the States.

Mr. Toucey resumed his remarks against the thirteenth section, which, if retained, would prevent him from voting for the bill.

Mr. Underwood followed in support of the bill.

Messrs. Hunter, Butler, Phelps, and Pettit, opposed the bill.

Messrs. Chase and Hamlin, presented memorials in favor of a pension to Americans, while abroad, religious freedom.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the Deficiency bill.

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